

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-23 are pending herein. Claims 1, 3, 21 and 22 have been amended hereby to correct matters of form and for clarification purposes, as supported, for example, by paragraphs [0027], [0014] and [0118] of the original specification. New claim 23 has been added hereby as supported by paragraph [0018] of the original specification, for example. Applicants respectfully submit that no new matter has been added.

1. The specification objection is noted, but deemed moot in view of the rewritten claims and the substitute specification paragraphs submitted above.

Specifically, paragraphs [0014] and [0118] have been amended hereby to properly include the features recited in original claims 4 and 22, respectively, and are duly supported thereby. In addition, paragraph [0018] has also been amended to recite the specific pH value of 12 that is known to be inherent to the specific alkaline liquid composition used in the evaluation test identified and described in original paragraph [0018].

For at least the foregoing reasons, Applicants respectfully request that the above objection be reconsidered and withdrawn.

2. The §112, second paragraph rejection of claims 3, 21 and 22 is noted, but deemed moot in view of the rewritten claims submitted above. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the above rejection be reconsidered and withdrawn.

3. Claims 1-8, 10-12, 14 and 16-22 were rejected under §102(b) over Nakamura, claims 1, 3-7 and 12-14 were rejected under §102(b) over JP '600, claim 15 was rejected under §102(b)/§103(a) over Nakamura, and claim 9 was rejected under §103(a) over Nakamura. To the extent that the PTO might attempt to assert these rejections against the rewritten claims submitted above, they are respectfully traversed.

Independent claim 1 now recites that the hydrophobitized fine particles of the low-refractive index layer of the antireflective laminate contain voids, and are herein referred to as “void-containing fine particles.” Applicants respectfully submit that this feature is supported by paragraphs [0027] and [0028] of the original specification, for example. Moreover, Applicants respectfully submit that Nakamura and JP ‘600 both fail to disclose or suggest this feature of independent claim 1.

For example, Applicants respectfully submit that Nakamura merely discloses using an inorganic fine particle to form a low refractive index layer (see Nakamura, paragraphs [0192] to [0200]) and that the low refractive index layer by forming a void among the inorganic fine particles to cohere thereof (see Nakamura, paragraphs [0201] to [0207] and Fig. 4). JP ‘600 merely discloses a low refractive index layer obtained by composition having inorganic fine particles (see JP ‘600, paragraphs [0018] and [0019]), a resin to form nano-porous structures in a low refractive index layer (see JP ‘600, paragraph [0024]). Applicants respectfully submit, however, that it is clear that neither Nakamura nor JP ‘600 disclose or suggest “void-containing fine particles,” as claimed, which have a structure capable of containing gas filled into the fine particles and/or a gas-containing porous structure according to the present invention, whereby the refractive index is lowered inversely proportionally to the proportion of gas in the fine particles as compared with the refractive index of the fine particles *per se* (see, e.g., original specification, paragraph [0027]).

Since Nakamura and JP ‘600 both fail to disclose or suggest each and every feature recited in independent claim 1 for at least the reasons explained above, Applicants respectfully submit that independent claim 1, and all claims depending directly or indirectly therefrom, define patentable subject matter over both Nakamura and JP ‘600. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the above rejections be reconsidered and withdrawn.

4. Claims 1, 3-5, 7-10, 12 and 14-21 were provisionally rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting over claims 1, 11, 13-15 and 17-23 of copending Application Serial No. 10/569,363. Applicants

respectfully request that the PTO hold this provisional rejection in abeyance until the art rejections are overcome. If this is the only remaining rejection after entry and consideration of this Amendment, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned to expedite the filing of the necessary Terminal Disclaimer.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner acknowledge receipt and consideration of the references cited in the Information Disclosure Statement filed January 20, 2010.

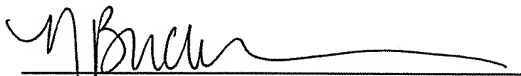
If the Examiner believes that contact with Applicants' attorney would be advantageous toward the disposition of this case, the Examiner is herein requested to call Applicants' attorney at the phone number noted below.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-1446.

Respectfully submitted,

March 1, 2010

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